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issue 16, volume 84 www.newbuffalotimes.com Thursday, April 24, 2025

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LET'S PLAY TWO...

Doubleheader sweep for promising Raiders

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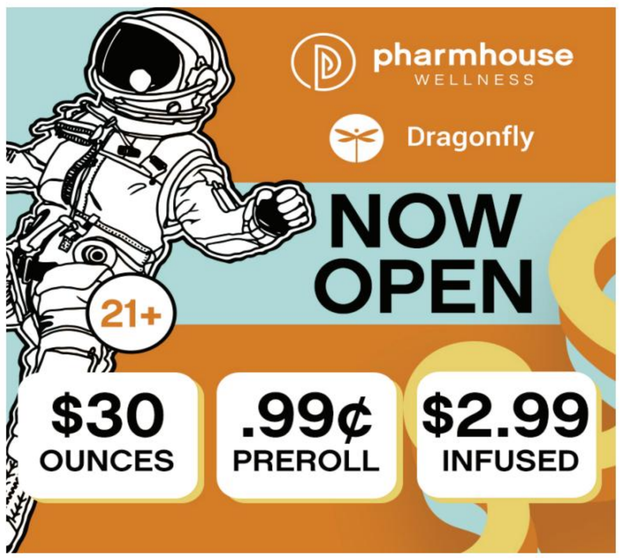
PHOTO BY STAN MADDUX



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NEW BUFFALO TIMES
PO BOX 369, New Buffalo, MI 49117

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PUBLICATION NUMBER 377960
CIRCULATION 5,000+ WEEKLY

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The Village of Grand Beach saw increase in equity for 2024

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

The Village of Grand Beach saw an increase in equity for the 2024 fiscal year, Jamie Wilkey, a partner from Lauterbach & Amen, said at the village council's Wednesday, April 16, meeting.

"That certainly helps to contribute to future maintenance costs, capital funding and those types of things," she said.

The village saw an overall decrease in fund balance for the year of $309,062 for the General, Major Streets, Capital Projects and Non-Major funds. Wilkey said much of that came from approximately $422,000 in capital asset investments during the year, which can be seen in the Capital Projects Fund.

"That really is kind of, when you look at the big-ticket items, it's that investment in capital that's generating that decrease for this year," Wilkey said.

Wilkey added that "that creates assets and that means equity is improving, when we're building those new assets."

Regarding the water and golf funds, Wilkey said that the water fund had an increase to equity for the year of $21,738, which were "positive results," and the golf fund had a slight decrease of $47,455.

Regarding the depreciation expenses on those assets, for water, that was about $54,000 and $32,000 for golf.

Regarding the village's revenue bond, which is the loan within the water fund to help pay for prior infrastructure, Wilkey said $35,000 was paid down on the water revolving loan fund during the year and will be repaid in fiscal year 2028. The golf course's lease payable for carts is also being paid down and will be retired in 2027 fiscal year.

Council members approved the Beach Resiliency Committee's request to send out an RFP for a coastal engineering firm to develop site assessment and data collection, engineering analysis and sand nourishment planning, permitting and regulatory compliance and design and construction documents, all with the intent of being able to award a contract to a contractor to restore the village's beaches.

Parks and beaches commissioner Peter Doerr said that the committee approved the proposal as well as a list of vendors that which it would be sent.

He added that part of the effort is raising money toward the study and Joe Farwell and his team have already raised half of the money to fund it.

Council members approved officially changing the name of Doerr's committee from Parks and Recreation to Parks and Beaches.

A proposal from Wightman Engineering for $3,000 to assist with a grant application to MDOT from their Transportation Economic Development Fund, was approved.

Streets and water commissioner Ed Sebastian, who said the application is due in June, said the grant is targeted at small communities of less than 10,000 people and is intended to offer a maximum amount of $250,000 in grants toward streets. If awarded it, the village will need to match the grant amount for street repairs, with the possibility of being responsible for other matters.

Councilmembers approved a survey on unfunded projects, which include road repairs, golf course irrigation, beach restoration and a new police station, that are facing the village that will be issued to residents.

Police commissioner Ed Brandes said that a joint proposal from Grand Beach and Michiana was submitted March 28 for federal funding to support building a new police station, which will serve both villages.

Team members who put it together included council president Harry Walder, deputy clerk Michelle Maroney, police chief Ryan Layman and Mike Elliott.

"It was a really great effort, and I feel we put together a really strong proposal," Brandes said.

Councilmembers approved a fee schedule, which will be reviewed in detail at the next meeting. Walder said that fees have been spread throughout the village's ordinances and will now be on one page, so they can be reviewed together on an annual basis.

A quote from Four Seasons (NWI) for installing regulators on Village Hall and the generator for $1,950 was approved.

The purchase of approximately 20 evergreen trees to be planted around the Department of Public Works building to further shield the storage areas at a cost not to exceed $3,000 was approved.

A request from Meg Piper for the closure of Whitewood Avenue from Perkins to Lakeview for a block party on Saturday, May 24, was approved.

Council members approved depositing $4,866.64 into the Health Savings account for employee Brendan Stadler, which would be effective May 1.

Council members approved awarding the contract for cleaning the village hall's windows to Window Gang in the amount of $1,100 and the contract to clean the carpet to Stanley Steemer for $899.

The purchase of a partition for the police car, which will separate offenders from the police, for an amount not to exceed $1,500 was approved.

Council members approved awarding a $3,000 change in the custom script to BS&A, so the system matches the village's new fiscal year, which is now July 1.

The sense impression, beware. — *Dino N. Fatouros*

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

New Buffalo Township Board fields 4/20 holiday concerns

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Reactions from the recent 4/20 cannabis holiday in New Buffalo Township took center stage at the New Buffalo Township Board's Monday, April 21, meeting.

Lt. Thad Chartrand said that he attributed the 10 out of 16 calls that he received over the course of Saturday and Sunday to the "influx of people" who were in the township for the holiday. Of those 10 calls, six of them were traffic crashes and two of them were regarding hold-up alarms at 7 a.m., when the establishments were opening.

He said he understands that there was a lot of traffic in the area and a lot of parking citations were issued; however, no one was injured.

There was a "little slowdown" through the area, particularly in the M-239/Wilson Road area.

"It was a little bit more than what I think everyone anticipated from last year but fortunately we didn't have any major incidents," Chartrand said.

An additional sheriff deputy was also on duty, and Chartrand said that he drove through three areas: Exit 4/U.S. 12, M-239/Wilson Road area and U.S. 12 south of Wilson to the state line.

Chartrand said he himself interacted with dispensary managers throughout the day.

He said that he believes that everyone seeing the interactions as well as the police cars with their red and blue lights on at the intersection of Wilson helped.

Chartrand will be meeting with township fire chief Jamie Flick and New Buffalo Township Supervisor Michelle Heit with regards to how to handle the holiday next year.

New Buffalo resident Caitlin Rosinko said that they had to close a dispensary in Niles because they couldn't "compete with the market here."

People from the streets of Chicago have been driving an hour or more to get "pounds of weed to take back home with them," she said. As she witnessed this past weekend, people have also been driving from as far away as Kentucky "because it's so cheap."

She said she saw a transient person sleeping in the dugout, where her child has played baseball.

New Buffalo, Rosinko said, has become the "cannabis capital of the world," adding that King of Budz sells "more cannabis that we can comprehend."

"In a matter of a year, you guys have made a decision that completely changes the culture of our little town," she said.

Jennfier Cochran, who lives across the street from O'Brien Court, said that people were driving like they were "out of their minds" all weekend, adding that cars were parked in her front yard Sunday.

Not too long ago, she said she called 911 when she saw a car at the end of her driveway and two men urinating in her backyard.

"It's my backyard and I'm afraid when I come home what I'm going to find there," she said, adding that the two men were heading across the street to the dispensaries there.

Kim Landess said that she's concerned about the traffic from dispensaries causing accidents going down U.S. 12, adding that she's requesting there be no more special events for dispensaries.

"It's embarrassing to be called 'New Puffalo,' 'Three Toaks' and 'Buchannabis…' It's embarrassing for our kids and grandkids to think this is the only thing that we are," she said.

A fifth pay estimate for $79,912.25 to PayJay Inc. and the second change order, which is an increase of $32,797.25, for the U.S. 12 water and sewer project was approved.

Matt Davis, project engineer from Wightman and Associates, said the contractor is almost done installing all the water main, with 500 feet left to go near Hoder Road.

The township worked with the property owners and Galien River Sanitary District to evaluate issues regarding operations and capacity. The change order includes an increase in the capacity of the sanitary sewer, which will allow for more future development "in a way the GRSD will also be very comfortable maintaining it" as well as a reduction in the project cost, as the contractor identified a less costly way to install the water main.

Substantial completion of the project, which is when the system will be operational, will be June 13 and final completion will be June 27, when all the restoration work will be complete.

Board members adopted a resolution that states the township supports "the economic development framework as developed by the Cross Municipal Collaborative and declares New Buffalo Township's commitment to participating in collaborative effort with other municipalities in the region to offer more robust economic development programs and services."

A step increase of 2 percent per hour for utility department workers Forest Galanda and Matt Harfert was approved.

The hiring of Michael Bombin at $16 per hour as park department seasonal employee was approved.

An outdoor assembly permit for Timber Cannabis Co. from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. May 24 was approved.

A six-month extension of preliminary approval of an SLU until Nov. 20 to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment was granted to the following: 19325 US-12 LLC, New Buffalo US 12 Group LLC at 10227 U.S. 12 and Harbor Country Drive LLC at 18910 Harbor Country Drive.

Final approval of an SLU to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment was granted to AUM Investments LLC at 18350 U.S. 12 and Green Mountain Holdings NB 2 LLC at 11300 Harbor Country Drive.

A four-month extension of preliminary approval of an SLU to Peter Bobeck Real Estate Company Inc. at 19563 U.S. 12 until Sept. 17 to operate an adult use marijuana retail establishment was approved.

Almost all of our sorrows spring out of our relations with other people.
— Arthur Schopenhauer

Center for Creative Solutions, Inc. honors Jack Olesker with the CREO!

The Center for Creative Solutions bestowed this year's CREO! to Jack Olesker during Northwest Indiana's World Creativity & Innovation Week. Michigan City writer, producer and director, Olesker received the prestigious award for four decades of writing, producing and directing over 1,200 episodes of television programs, 18 films, several PBS documentaries, 7 published novels, and more.

"Jack is a consummate story teller. His tales have entertained us, educated us, taken us to places we've never been, and taught us some of life's most valuable lessons. Through his own creative journey, he has encouraged each of us to be brave, follow our dreams, be persistent, take risks, imagine, work hard, and tap into our own brand of creativity," said Cynthia Hedge, CEO of the Center.

Olesker accepted the award at the A. K. Smith Career Center in Michigan City on April 15. Speaking to area student innovators, their families, and community leaders, he shared one of his life's most important lessons.

Not long ago, Olesker said, he and his wife, Kim, were leaving a New Buffalo restaurant. They were approached by a women who just learned he had written for the television show, Care Bears. "She grew up in a dysfunctional family in which her father was verbally abusive to her mother. She told me all week she waited for one thing - the Care Bears on Saturday mornings. 'It was my oasis.' And then, her voice choking with emotion, she said, 'I want to thank you for saving my childhood…'"

Olesker continued, "There's a difference between success and being successful. Don't get me wrong. The money and being a success are important. But being successful comes from touching someone's heart and soul. I don't care if you're a writer or a chef or an automobile mechanic. Your using your skills to repair a broken fuel line might enable a single mom to keep her car on the road so she can work two jobs. Your amazing carne asada may make a memory for a

young couple who will end up getting married. And your wonderful script just might save a young woman's childhood."

Olesker's creative hand can be found in other television shows. These include The Littles, The New Adventures of He-man, M.A.S.K. The Super Mario Bros. Super Show, Heathcliff and the Catillac Cats, Hello Kitty's Fairytail Theater, and Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. For PBS, he has written documentaries, including At the Zoo; With Max and McKenzie; Campus, filmed at Purdue University in Lafayette; and The Power of 100, based upon the 100 Black Men of America mentoring organization.

Olesker owns his own production company in Long Beach. He served as president of KEN Creative Studios, based in Chennai, India. His newspaper column, "A Writer's Life…During the Golden Age of Television Animation," appears weekly in the New Buffalo Times.

Success comes with a price, Olesker reminded the audience. "If you want to be successful, then you need to understand that you will have mountains to climb, that every time you begin a new venture you will be standing in the foothills of the Matterhorn, Everest and K2 and that it's a twenty-nine thousand foot climb to the summit. So, you'd better have a relentless work ethic and an adamantine drive to be successful. You'd better remember what Sylvester Stallone said in the final installment of the Rocky films: 'It's not about how hard you can hit. It's about how hard you can be hit and keep moving forward.'"

The CREO! recognizes an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to promoting a culture of innovation in the region. CREO is a Latin term, meaning "to create." It stands for Creativity, Regional, Excellence and Originality. For 10 years, the Center has honored area innovators and entrepreneurs in business, education, health care, technology, art, and non-profit organizations serving the community.

The Center for Creative Solutions has been the sponsor of Northwest Indiana's World Creativity & Innovation Week for the last 16 years. Joining it are community partners, the Society of Innovators at Purdue Northwest Indiana, Sinai Temple, The Nest, Westville Public Library, Art on the Air on Lakeshore Public Radio, and WIMS Radio.

The week's celebration is made possible in part by the generosity of the Bethany Church Foundation of La Porte; the Indiana Arts Commission, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; the B.R. Foundation; the Morgan Family Foundation; and Family Express.

The Center is a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging a culture of innovation in Northwest Indiana. To see how the rest of the world is celebrating World Creativity & Innovation Week, go to https://wciw.org

Currently, 140 countries observe World Creativity & Innovation Week. The United Nations has designated April 21 as World Creativity & Innovation Day.

For more information, go to the CenterforCreativeSolutions.com, send an email to creativity52@comcast.net, or telephone 219-326-7259.

Soaring costs could ground city fireworks

BY THERESE DONNELLY

Increased costs due to tariffs and uncertain future prices may leave the future of the city's Fourth of July fireworks display up in the air.

During the New Buffalo City Council's April 21 meeting, City Manager Darwin Watson explained that, in September 2024, the city entered an agreement to pay $28,000 for the 2025 fireworks show, $29,000 for 2026 and $30,000 for 2027; however, increasing prices for imported goods are driving up vendor costs. Watson said the vendor initially requested a 50 percent downpayment in order to secure the fireworks, but tariff costs are now increasing 125 percent and the supplier is unwilling to make purchase without a sale. In light of this, the vendor has asked the city to pay the second half of the 2025 fireworks upfront, and half of the 2026 payment to secure product.

Councilmember Rich Knoll asked if it was possible to get the city's deposit refunded, rather than pay further. He noted the fireworks display is costing the city "one thousand dollars a minute," with no guarantee of what future costs will be. Councilmember Mark Robertson questioned what would happen if the city prepaid for 2026 but the vendor went out of business. Watson said he would check with the vendor on refunds.

During the New Buffalo City Council's April 21 meeting, City Manager Darwin Watson explained that, in September 2024, the city entered an agreement to pay $28,000 for the 2025 fireworks show, $29,000 for 2026 and $30,000 for 2027; however, increasing prices for imported goods are driving up vendor costs. Watson said the vendor initially requested a 50 percent downpayment in order to secure the fireworks, but tariff costs are now increasing 125 percent and the supplier is unwilling to make purchase without a sale. In light of this, the vendor has asked the city to pay the second half of the 2025 fireworks upfront, and half of the 2026 payment to secure product.

The council unanimously passed a resolution in tribute to former councilmember Brian Flanagan, who served on the council from 2020 to 2024. In the tribute, it was noted that Flanagan was a dedicated public servant whose "efforts will long continue to enrich the people of the New Buffalo community."

Flanagan died Feb. 26 after a brief illness. In addition to his service on the council, he was a long-time employee of Service 1 Marine.

Ben Smock of the Downtown Development Authority told the council that King of Budz Dispensary had approached the DDA with an offer to sponsor the fireworks in exchange for a sign recognizing their contribution. The council declined the offer, explaining the city had chosen not to permit marijuana businesses in city limits and it would not be appropriate to accept money from marijuana sales.

Mayor Vance Price recommended Watson ascertain if the city could get the money already paid for the 2025 fireworks refunded. If not, he suggested going forward with this year's display, but cancelling any further displays while prices remain high.

Representing the New Buffalo Business Association, Smock told the council the farmers market will still be on Thursdays this year, but operating times will be from 2 to 6 p.m., with stalls on East Merchant Street between Whittaker and the entrance to the Everwise Bank parking lot. Smock said the arrangement will allow for a fire lane and access to the bank.

The council approved the special event application for the market.

The council tabled a decision on a resolution to affirm the city's commitment to a joint collaboration with neighboring communities to promote economic development.

Watson explained that more people are working from home, allowing them to live further from their offices. This is bringing more residents and businesses to the area, and with that an increased need for further digital and physical infrastructure. Municipalities throughout southwest Berrien County have joined a Cross Municipal Collaborative (CMC) group to identify the needs and opportunities for economic development in the region.

If the council approves the resolution as currently presented, they will join in economic growth efforts, and approve up to $31,525 in funds from the Pokagon Fund as a municipal allocation for these efforts.

As summer approaches, the council is looking at options for parking in the downtown. After public meetings, workshops and discussions with business owners, the DDA recommended paid parking with three-hour limits. Price had raised the topic at the council's January meeting. At the April meeting, he noted paid parking would help generate revenue for parking enforcement.

Council members agreed there needs to be a way to discourage visitors from parking in the downtown all day while going to the beach. They also noted there needs to be parking available for downtown workers, who often work six hours or more.

The DDA has recommended offering free parking access for city residents, much like the beach access they already have, and a short grace period for visitors to run short errands without being charged to park.

Business owner and DDA member Robert Kemper said several business owners are willing to negotiate employee rates for lots and noted pushing parking off the downtown will congest nearby residential blocks.

The council approved site plans for three single-family homes on three properties in the city. The Planning Commission had previously approved applications from Heidi Hartmann and Dave Loffredo for construction at 30 S. Norton Street, from Benediktas Puskunigas at 100 Peninsula Drive and from Tonya Glenn at 410 Jefferson Street.

The council also approved two special use permits. Corrine and Larry Smith received a permit for a short-term rental at 115 E. Water Street and John Hartmann received a permit for a short-term rental at 409 E. Buffalo Street.

In order to obtain a liquor license, owners of Julaino's, a new restaurant going in at 310 West Buffalo St., are required to obtain a recommendation from the local government. Owner Robert Dalton told the council he plans to have a family restaurant at the location. Dalton is the owner of Four Shadows Tavern in Chicago. The council approved the recommendation.

At Watson's recommendation, the council approved the purchase of security hardware and monitoring at the City Fire Department and the Municipal Marina from EPS. The DSX Access Control System will cost a total of $19,337.64 for hardware and installation plus $1728 for annual monitoring. Watson said the costs will be covered by the Parks Improvement Fund and Fire Department budget.

The council tabled a decision on an amendment to the sidewalk ordinance. The ordinance sets conditions in which a homeowner must lay sidewalks along their property in the event of new construction, or renovations.

Price said he felt it put a burden on someone repairing extensive storm damage or renovating a distressed property. Watson said changes to the requirements could be made at the council's discretion.

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

The Bulls, Blackhawks, and White Sox all laid an egg, the Cubs are playing pretty great baseball, and the Bears will make decisions this week that will help shape the team for years to come.

Strap it up kids, it's time for some Chicago area sports talk.

Let's begin with the Bulls. Miami, who the Bulls had beaten three straight times during the regular season, handled the Bulls easily in their single play-in game. The Bulls have now been mediocre for, it seems like, a zillion years in a row. I like the nucleus more than I have lately, but come on Mr. Reinsdorf, the teams fans deserve so much more.

Of course, Mr. Reinsdorf also owns the White Sox and he has treated their fans even worse. Even though I'm a Cub fan,

I grew up on the south side where I have spent about half of my life, so many of my friends are Sox fans. At some point I stopped hating them and began rooting for them, just not as hard as I pulled for the Cubs.

Sox fans are good people and loyal sports fans, just like the team on the other side of town. They deserve so much more than current ownership is willing to give. Last year the Sox had the worst record in the history of Major League Baseball, winning games at a .253 clip.

This season, after the first 21 games, their winning percentage is .238, or slightly worse than the worst record ever. Come on Jerry Reinsdorf, you're an embarrassment.

Connected to Reinsdorf only through a horrible television contract, the Blackhawks finished ahead of only one team this past season.

When the season ended, a rumor began circulating that Connor Bedard was unhappy and wanted to move on. Since then, Bedard, who is the most important player on the team by far, squashed those rumors by declaring his love of Chicago and the Blackhawks organization. Thank goodness, or my support of the franchise would have been in serious doubt.

We have finally arrived at the current jewels of Chicago sports teams, the Cubs and da Bears.

The Cubs are playing really good baseball. They began the season in Japan, playing the L.A. Dodgers and lost both games played. Since then, against killer opposition, they have emerged victorious in 14 of 22 games and are in first place in their division. The team has scored more runs than any other team in the majors. Key off season acquisition Kyle Tucker is living up to the hype, playing like one of the best players in baseball.

Reserve catcher Carson Kelly is knocking the cover off of the ball. In a game this week against Arizona, the Cubs led 7-1 entering the eighth inning. When the ninth inning began, the Cubs still led, but the score was now 13-11. That's 16 runs in one inning, and of course a record. We will get into the Bears next week, after the draft.

Frank Lloyd Wright said, "Eventually, I think Chicago will be the most beautiful great city left in the world."

Be kind. Have fun. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

Clock begins ticking on deciding future of football field

BY STAN MADDUX

The process has begun for determining the fate of Kiwanis Field, the longtime home of the La Porte High School football team and other school related activities.

La Porte Schools Superintendent Dr. Sandra Wood said a committee is being formed to look into things like the existing condition of the stadium and costs of renovating the structure versus constructing a new facility.

"I think we all recognize very much how much meaning Kiwanis Field has to this community and we want to be able to honor that and acknowledge that. We have to look at this from a big picture perspective, though, because there is, of course, costs associated with any move that we make," she said.

The formation of a committee is the first response the school corporation has formally made to repeated demands from Preserve Historic La Porte, a group that has offered in recent years to pay for a study to determine the cost of renovating the stadium constructed in 1950.

The group has also offered to pay for applying to have Kiwanis Field placed on the National Register of Historic Places, claiming such a designation would open the door for pursuing grants to help renovate and maintain the structure.

Preserve Historic La Porte has been pushing the school corporation to move forward out of concern the condition of Kiwanis Field will worsen the longer its future remains unaddressed.

"We're pleased. It's a good first step," said Mark Kurth, president of the organization.

The group is also behind an online petition drive that currently has 748 verified signatures for saving the facility.

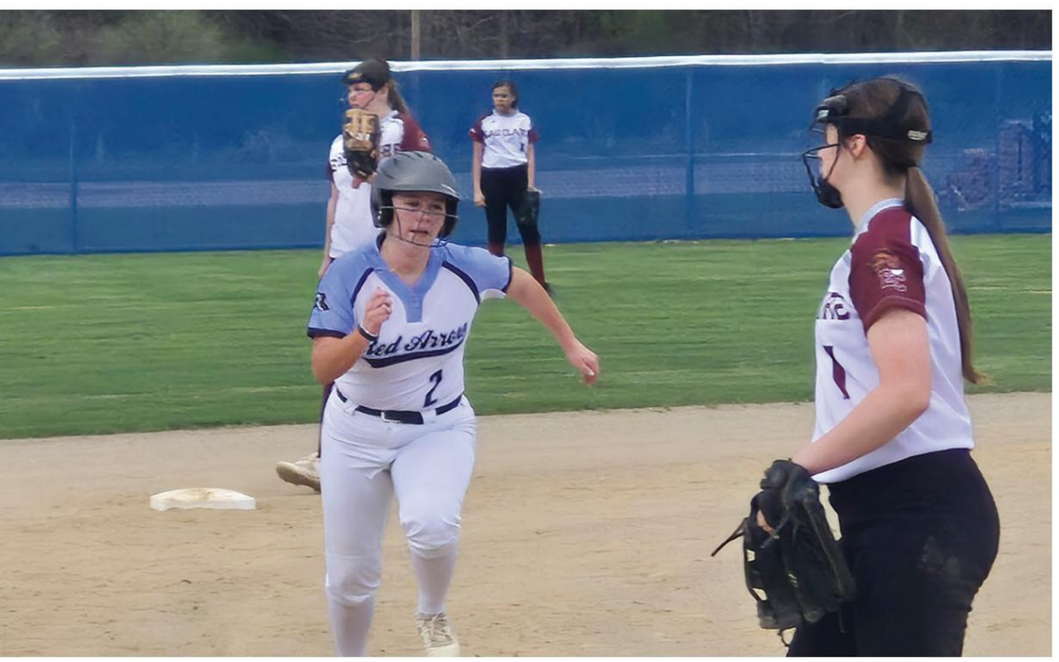
"I think a lot of people have a different opinion on what the best path forward is. I think the one thing within our district we can all agree on is that we want to have a facility that meets the needs of our students and our football program moving forward with updated and modern facilities," she said.

Wood said she anticipates the committee to come back as soon as early fall with a recommendation for the school board.

She said the recommendation could include options for the school board to decide which one fits best within the corporation's budget.

Kurth said he's optimistic the decision will be to save Kiwanis Field based on a recent tour where he didn't notice any structural issues that would be too costly to address.

"I'm looking forward to the findings of the committee," he said.



SPORTS

Doubleheader sweep for promising Raiders

BY STAN MADDUX

The Red Arrow Raiders with mostly freshmen and sophomores showed why the future looks bright with a doubleheader sweep at home Tuesday, April 22, in girls' high school softball.

The Raiders (5-3) defeated Eau Claire at River Valley High School 15-2 and 18-2 in what was their first conference match-up of the season.

Head Coach Erick Rochefort said the first two seasons after River Valley and New Buffalo High School merged their programs were rebuilding years with a lot of young talent coming up from the ranks.

"It's starting to take off right now," he said.

Just two of the 15 players on the roster are seniors, who are starters in the line-up.

They are leftfielder Ava Ledesma and Lydia Habel, who plays second base.

"They're leading the way with their attitudes and performance. The young girls are listening to them and working as a team together," he said.

The best hitter on the squad is Addy Lynch, who evened the score at 2-2 in the first inning of the first game by driving in a run with a double high off the center field fence.

Later in the inning, Lynch hit an inside the park home run on a ball that rolled to the leftfield fence.

In the third inning, Lynch cleared the center field fence with a solo shot.

After her run scoring double, the Raiders bats heated up with nine more runs crossing the plate.

Other first inning highlights included a two RBI double by first baseman, Johnna Rochefort and a run scoring triple by shortstop, Emma Seifert.

Starting pitcher Greta Vollman went the distance in the game called under the mercy rule after the Beavers failed to score in the 5th inning.

The losses by the Raiders this season were to Bridgman and Brandywine.

Rochefort said he also likes the ability of his three starting pitchers that include Seifert and Rylee Rudolph.

Rudolph pitched two innings in the second game as the starter while Seifert finished the game on the mound.

He also spoke highly of his defense and the entire batting line-up along the experience his players bring from previous seasons at the high school level and youth leagues.

"They're all really hard hitters. They've been playing for a long time and they want to win," he said.

My dad drilled into me that nobody is better than me and that I can do whatever I want. That is my biggest asset. I'm probably not technically as good as a lot of people I have fought, you know what I mean? But I believe in myself that much that I beat them. — *Paddy Pimblett*

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988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Dean Dale helps daughter Alba check out her Easter goodies at the American Legion

Children in the toddlers through 5 year old group hunt for eggs at the American Legion

Koby McLean hangs out with the Easter Bunny at the American Legion

The hunt is on for the 6-8 age group at the American Legion

Children participate in face painting at Spring Creek Equestrian Center

Children hunt for eggs on the farm at Spring Creek Equestrian Center

The Moles family hangs out with the Easter Bunny at the American Legion

Children hunt for eggs on the farm at Spring Creek Equestrian Center

Children, adults flock to egg hunts

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Children hopped down the bunny trail to several area egg hunts that took place Saturday, April 19.

There were egg hunts that took place at the New Buffalo at the New Buffalo American Legion Post 169, during which children hunted for a golden egg and special eggs for each age division; Harbert Community Park, where the Lakeside Association held its annual children's hunt as well as debuted an adult hunt and at Spring Creek Equestrian Center in Three Oaks, where children could hunt for eggs amongst the horses and other animals.

Also at each hunt, children could visit with the Easter Bunny himself and pose for an impromptu picture with him.

The older group hunts for eggs at the American Legion

Nora Tormey, Diana Smith and Ruta Bermer at the American Legion

The 9-12 age group is raring to go at the American Legion

VICTIM OF PAYPAL SCAM LIMITS LOSSES

A La Porte area woman fell victim to a PayPal telephone scam but wised up in time to prevent further losses.

According to La Porte County, the 77-year-old La Porte area woman on April 16 reported a caller identifying himself as "Jerry" claimed to be an employee of PayPal.

Supposedly, the woman had a past due debt that "Jerry" claimed she could settle by purchasing gift cards containing money and giving him the card numbers for withdrawing the cash.

Police said the women went out and purchased $300 worth of gift cards and texted him the numbers. In addition, the woman told police she gave out the numbers to her bank accounts.

At some point, she became suspicious enough to have her bank accounts frozen and the numbers changed before "Jerry" could start making withdrawals.

As a result, she was out just the $300 she spent on the gift cards, police said. — STAN MADDUX

The Region of Three Oaks Museum to debut 2025 exhibits

Several new exhibits will debut as The Region of Three Oaks Museum opens its new season at noon Friday, May 2.

The museum, located at 5 Featherbone Avenue in Three Oaks, will operate from noon to 5 p.m., Friday through Sunday, from May through the end of October.

New exhibits for 2025 include:

Saw and grain mills— Pioneer mill technology helped early European settlers survive. This exhibit includes maps showing where the mills of the 1800s were, as well as equipment from the New Troy Mill, the last mill to operate in our area.

A World War II-era kitchen— This authentic 1940s kitchen pairs with our exhibit on local members of The Greatest Generation, who fought to preserve American freedom. The kitchen display will emphasize the sacrifices made by those who didn't fight overseas; homemakers who, through conserving and recycling scarce materials, helped GIs win the war.

Three Oaks Fair— Decades before the Berrien County Youth Fair debuted, Three Oaks hosted this area's big fair. The fairgrounds, including a racetrack, grandstands, and display pavilions, were very near the museum's current location. Learn how pink chickens became a celebrated part of the fair.

Doctors— From early physicians bedeviled by malaria to the last of the country doctors who still made house calls, this exhibit highlights the healing efforts of local MDs. See the patent medicine marketed out of Three Oaks 125 years ago and hear how one local doctor used hypnosis to help his patients lose weight and quit smoking, while another devoted much time and energy to help poverty-stricken Haiti.

$$$$$— Bills and coins and bonds from the collection of the Chamberlain Museum of Three Oaks. How did all this exotic currency wind up in Three Oaks?

Hess Road/Sittig Road— Our continuing exhibit on how local roads got their names focuses on folks who immigrated from Germany during the mid-19th century, an immigration wave that re-made the population of our area.

Harbor Country— Our tourism exhibit has been expanded to include this look at how the re-branding of local tourism promotion efforts paid off in the 1980s and 90s. We've got a "Harbor Country Monopoly" game set up for play!

The Region of Three Oaks Museum is a 501 (C) (3) nonprofit organization, whose mission is to preserve and present local history. Admission to the museum is free, though a $3 donation is suggested. — STAFF REPORTS

OBITUARIES

Joan Marie Campbell
1943-2025

Joan Marie Campbell, 81, of New Buffalo, died peacefully, Sunday, March 30, 2025, in the comfort of her home, surrounded by her family.

Her life began April 25,1943 in La Porte, Indiana, the second oldest of seven. She was born to her parents Kenneth A. Miller and Muriel Casey Miller Haverstock.

Joan was known for her loving nature and kind heart. She was the heart of our family, and she will be dearly missed. She was a devoted grandmother, and her grandchildren were her pride and joy. She always said that their birth brought joy to her life. They all felt the love and support she provided them over the years. Joan enjoyed spending time surrounded by family. She loved gardening . She would sit outside often to enjoy her flowers and watch for all kinds of birds. Joan also loved her sweets. Some of her favorites were Toblerone, Peeps, Mallow Cups, and Chocolate Covered Cherries.

Joan will be greatly missed by her family and friends. She is survived by three daughters, Mary Bridget Demler (Perry) of Decatur, Mary Colleen Topolski (Joseph) of Three Oaks and Mary Kathleen Campbell-Walters (Andrew) of New Buffalo; six grandchildren Justin Campbell, Lyndsey Topolski, Chloe Topolski, Hannah Walters, Leah Wroblak (Darek) and Mylo Walters; two sisters, Peggy Teeter and Cynthia Miller, and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Jayne Sandy (Mike) and her brother, Ken Miller (Jean).

The family will observe a private remembrance.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online at www.wagnercares.com.

A Day in the Life...

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER

Just because we had a couple of hundred Leghorn chickens was no excuse for using their eggs for something silly like hiding eggs instead of jelly beans. Jelly beans were easier to hide and harder to find but we made the best of it and Annie and I were very competitive over who found the most! I don't recall any gifts but the jelly beans were enough and lasted for days while we ate them.

Lest you think we were deprived of decorating and dying Easter eggs, We did that the night before lest we miss that excitement and I think we got a whole dozen for that extravaganza. Annie and I made each other a dyed egg, and also the folks and our grandma's. Then Uncle Dick and Aunt Irma and their kids came for dinner and we played Easter hide and seek again. That was extra fun because they brought real eggs decorated all fanciful because Uncle Dick was a professional farrier (race horse shoer) and made lots of money. He would bring lots of gifts for the egg hunt like stuffed animals, dolls, toy guns, soft balls, and blow up toys. At the end we traded with each other for the gender appropriate things. He always had extra ones hidden in his new cars for that occasion. They would be hidden in his trunk along with his horse shoe tools. They came to the farm on Easter every year with their three kids Linda, Sharon, and Steve. The girls were teenagers and the son a few years younger. All were exceptionally good looking like their Mom and Dad. Uncle Dick was a good looker, as well as Aunt Irrma who was a piece of work with an exceptional bosom of which she was most proud. They always came in their new car of which Uncle Dick mostly trashed his work which made him gobs of money which he spent every dime of it on his wife and kids. The place they called home was a double wide trailer with no plan for buying anything different. They moved often all over the States. They had a great life, it seemed to me compared to the boring farm where we lived. Mother cooked a feast for which the glamor girl, Aunt Irrma did not lift a finger. Linda, the oldest of the two girls, didn't either. Irma just sat on the counter being glamorous and smoking endlessly. Uncle Dick was the Santa Claus of Easter!

And that was our family Easter celebration with hardly any recognition for our Good Lord. I am making up for that period, incrementally at least. I have only been absent at church three times in ten years or more. I do go to church every Sunday, and I take deviled eggs for the snack table served before the service. That guy up above is so good to me. Which shocks me but I am forever grateful.

I was directed to not use the wheelchair at home so I can strengthen my legs. I thought I was in that wheelchair for the rest of my life! Thank you Jesus. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

STRESS AND YOUR HEALTH

Feeling like there are too many pressures and demands on you? Losing sleep worrying about stuff? Eating on the run because your schedule is just too busy? Are you feeling sad, irritable, moody, depressed, stomach issues, allergies? These symptoms can be stress induced. 77% of Americans say their #1 stress is their job.

The human body responds to stressors by activating the nervous system and specific hormones. These hormones speed up heart rate, breathing rate, blood pressure, and metabolism. Digestion slows down. Blood vessels open wider to let more blood flow to large muscle groups, putting our muscles on alert. Pupils dilate to improve vision. The liver releases some of its stored glucose to increase the body's energy. And sweat is produced to cool the body. All of these physical changes prepare a person to react quickly and effectively to handle the pressure of the moment. This is the typical fight or flight response. Watching a scary movie or an argument can induce this response. If this happens on a regular basis, this is what we see as anxiety, or panic attacks.

Stress contributes to a range of chronic disease. Pressures that are too intense or last too long, or troubles that are shouldered alone, can cause people to feel stress overload. This is adrenal fatigue. Such as the death of a loved one, loss of a job, a divorce, being bullied and so on.

Stress can be triggered from worry, pain, drugs, illness, and even our beloved junk foods. The answer to stress is notanother prescription. It is usually what is on the end of your fork. Diet and lifestyle have a direct correlation to stress. Are you getting living fruits and vegetables, whole grains, beans nuts and seeds? When the nervous system is malnourished, it makes a domino effect to the cardiovascular and the immune system and so on. An acidic diet of sugary foods, high dairy and meat will set you up for stress.

In all areas of life, there needs to be a balance. Just like balancing your checkbook. Ask yourself what you are depositing into your body mind and spirit. What are you withdrawing in your life that is stressing your emotions and bankrupting your health? This is where you have to make change. Not maybe… definitely.

What can you do? Removing the stressor is not always easy, but you can learn to neutralize how you cope with it. If the stress affects your digestive system, try Chamomile or Peppermint teas. Stress destroys nutrients, so it is wise to nourish well.

For emotional stress, it could be listening to soft music, or taking a walk. (Without your cell phone.) Do some yoga or exercise. Look at your schedule of where you really could make some positive changes. Step away from what you know is causing more stress in your life.

It is not just what you add to your life to become stress free, it is what you get rid of. Remove the damaging thoughts and health robbing stressors in your life.

Disclaimer: Nothing in these articles is meant to replace medical advice. If you are on medications, do not stop taking them. This is for educational purposes.

Karen Edwards is a board-Certified Dr. of Naturopathy, Master Herbalist, Vegan and Raw food Chef. She is owner of Holistic Alternatives in New Buffalo and La Porte for over 25 years.

Wanted man captured following chase into New Buffalo Township

BY STAN MADDUX

A high speed motor vehicle pursuit from Indiana into Michigan and back ended with the capture of the driver wanted in another state.

Hassan Malley, 36, of Beverly Shores was pulled over about 1 a.m. Wednesday, April 23, for a license plate violation at Indiana 212 and Tryon Road on Michigan City's east side, according to La Porte County Police.

During a computer records check, police said a warrant for his arrest turned up for an undisclosed offense in Wisconsin.

That's when Malley allegedly took off and reached U.S. 12 where he headed eastbound into New Buffalo Township.

Police said he later headed back toward Michigan City where, eventually, stop sticks placed out in the road flattened one of his tires.

He kept going, though, and veered into the westbound lanes of Interstate 94 where he stopped about two miles later, police said.

Malley was arrested for Level 6 felony resisting law enforcement and two misdemeanor counts of driving with a suspended license and aggressive driving.

Police said a hold was also placed on him in the La Porte County Jail for his possible return to Wisconsin to face charges in that state.

'Box Car Buffet' coming next month

Back for the first time since before the pandemic, the New Buffalo Railroad Museum's 2025 Box Car Buffet will be held at New Buffalo Yacht Club Wednesday, May 7.

Starting at 6 p.m., guests will enjoy a sumptuous buffet, take part in a huge silent auction, shake a leg at a mini-dance party and have the chance to hear firsthand some exciting museum news.

Supporting sponsors for the event are SEMCO and Tom Rossman, State Farm Insurance. The Friend Sponsor is AMTRAK.

As of April 11, silent auction donors include A Clean Getaway, Al Fuego, Baroda Founders Wine Cellar, Brewster's Italian Café, Briar Leaf Golf Club, Chicago School of Shoemaking and Leather Arts, Chikaming Dental Center, City Flowers, David's Delicatessen & Coffee/The False Front, Extra HandEd, Falatic's Meat Market, Flourish Books & Plants, Garden Grove Bed & Breakfast, Garth Taylor, Ghost Isle Brewery, Glik's, Granor Farms, Harbor Country Dental, Hummingbird Lounge, I Love Toy Trains, Infusco Coffee, Issa Vibe Café, Jackie's Café, Joan Putzke, Karla's Cake Pops, Karla Madison, Katha Kissman, Kreative Memories, McDonald's, MI Massage Studio, Mick Lantis, Nadra Kissman, New Buffalo Sailing Excursions, Post Boy Restaurant, Redamak's, Round Barn Winery & Estate, Sawyer Garden Center, Scanomat, South Shore Railroad, Stay and Obey, The Acorn, The Hidden Gem, The Rainbow Cone, The Sports Card Shop, The Wine Sellers, Therese Donnelly, Timothy's Restaurant and Whittaker Wine Merchants.

Tickets may be securely purchased online using this link at www.givebutter.com/kfBOlF or email at ask@new-buffalo-railroad-museum.org for other ticket purchase options.

Seating is limited, as the event is likely to sell out.

For more information, email ask@new-buffalo-railroad-museum.org or call/text 202-669-4423. — STAFF REPORTS

Marijuana wax shipment seized in La Porte County

BY STAN MADDUX

Two men could face prison time after caught passing through La Porte County with an alleged bulk shipment of black market marijuana wax.

Roman Alvarez, 32, of Gilbert, Arizona, and Sean Downing, 45, of Makawao, Hawaii, are each charged in La Porte Circuit Court with Level 5 felony dealing in marijuana.

According to court documents, the men on April 17 were in an SUV rented in southern California stopped for tailgating a semi-truck on the Indiana Toll Road near Rolling Prairie.

Downing claimed to be a licensed carrier of cannabis in Hawaii traveling to smoke shops in New York City where he was looking to become a partner in the businesses, police said.

While recreational marijuana is legal in New York, only medical marijuana is legal in Hawaii and only if someone has three grams or less of the drug.

In Indiana, both forms of marijuana remain illegal.

Suspecting inconsistencies in their reasons given for traveling, a drug sniffing dog was brought out and detected suspected narcotics in the vehicle, police said.

According to court documents, a search of the vehicle produced three totes each containing 16 large, clear bottles of THC wax.

Two more large wax filled bottles were found inside two cardboard boxes in the vehicle, police said.

A search of Downing's cell phone further enhanced the suspicions of law enforcement from chats revealing concerns about being caught and having been followed for several miles by a police officer earlier in their trip, according to court documents.

Both men could each face anywhere from a one to six year sentence.

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

Treading carefully

I came to L.A. believing in fairness and karma. That said, I knew the entertainment business could be brutal. So I felt it was prudent to keep my guard up, which I did the moment Sandy asked, in an even voice, "What do you mean?"

I answered, "I want to help you as much as I can, so I think it's a good idea for me to understand the editing process."

He relaxed a little. But still cautious, he said, "I heard you worked a lot with Jean on your scripts. I'm sure he edited them. You saw his notes, right?"

I nodded, but added, "Seeing his notes and understanding why he made them are two different things." I conveniently left out that Jean had explained to me, in detail, why he had made every revision suggestion, but I wanted to see where Sandy's head was at when it came to editing.

I continued. "I revised my scripts according to Jean's notes. But I haven't done actual editing like you and Jean, so I'd like to understand why you do what you do."

With my admission that Sandy was in a superior position to me, even though his title already affirmed that, Sandy relaxed more. Then he went into a half-hour professorial, by-rote dissertation on the general principles of story editing, the importance of 'house style', continuityand consistency. It all made sense. But he sounded cautiously dispassionate. I felt like he was reading from a textbook about scriptwriting rather than speaking from personal experience.

By the time Sandy finished, it was apparent to me that this was the first time he'd ever been a story editor.

How a business operates directly reflects on the quality of its product. Great animated series are created by talented executives, writers, producers, directors, artists, voiceover artists and administrative staff, all contributing to the final product.

Some people who love an animated series think, "I'll bet I could produce that." Really? Tell me, without Googling for the answer, how many 2D cels it takes to create a 22 minute episode. Tell me the difference between pen-and-ink and inbetweening. Tell me the difference between ADR and looping and how to accomplish them in television?

You don't know? It's okay. You will. That's going to be a part of the fun in my columns!

In addition to the creative process, what you saw on television during the 1980s and 1990s was also the result of what can, as I've said, at times be a brutal business. In Swimming with Sharks, a spot-on film about the entertainment industry, Benicio del Toro cautions Frank Whaley, who is replacing del Toro as assistant to take-no-prisoners movie producer Buddy Ackerman, "This is not 'a'business; this is 'show' business. Punching below the belt is not only all right, it's rewarded."

I never believed in 'punching below the belt'. But I did believe you were judged by the quality of your work, the people you associated with, and, if you were working with them, the quality of their work. Hence, that 'guard' of mine was always up.

So after Sandy Fries completed his 'instructive' dissertation about the principles of story editing, I asked, "Where are we at on delivery; schedule-wise?"

Sandy deflated. He managed to say, "We're a week behind schedule..."

Jack Olesker's career in the entertainment industry spans over four decades. He has served as a story editor in L.A. as well as president of a motion picture and television company in Chennai, India. His writing ranges from Mighty Morphin Power Rangers, Care Bears and Hello Kitty's Furry Tale Theater to documentaries and horror novels and murder mysteries for adults.

HOROSCOPE

APRIL 24-30, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Break time is over. It's time to do what you have been contemplating. Trust in the power and value of your thoughts and creations. Know that you have the capacity to reach a larger audience now and that you will be well received. You may face some opposition but let them talk.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

There is a threepeat kind of vibe radiating your way this week. The energy is all about breakthroughs and overcoming obstacles. You may have had issues with social groups and how you fit in for some time, but now things will be resolved and a smooth transition will take place.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

It is important you understand how power and influence work together. A loud and boisterous person may come off as strong but they will not be respected due to the negative influence they are creating. If you want to be persuasive then you may want to be more low key positive.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

Power plays are over. It's time to realign with things that give back and contribute to your advancement. Invest in people and experiences that enrich your life. Take command and avoid entertaining situations that deplete your energy or devalue your intelligence. You've earned the respect.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

Sometimes you just have to let people in. Don't push away help out of pride or feel you are putting people out by asking for assistance. Be more upfront about you're your needs and ideas with partners and close associates, especially if you are injured or recovering from an illness.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

Stay true to your relationship goals but don't be afraid to tweak them to the individual that you are dealing with. This is the time to let go of frustrations with partners and accept people as they are. Not everyone will be all in with you but they can provide help in their own way. Accept it.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

There is a lot of push and pull between your familial obligations and the social world this week. You may be burdened with caring for a family member or asked to help someone in a way that inhibits your social calendar. Know that helping others does bring rewards, just not always immediate.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

Parents or authority figures may require some extra input this week and it would be wise to approach any difficult subjects with complete honesty and in a very adult like way. Avoid slang terms or answering questions off the cuff. Take time to explain and be sure to use plain language.

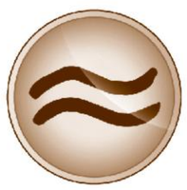
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

It's time to make that upgrade. Whether it is improving your education or buying a new computer, do it now. More than likely, you have spent the past few weeks looking for all the deals and reading the latest reviews. Don't put off doing or purchasing what you have already decided to do.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

Trust in what your heart knows. Some relationships are draining and others make you feel enriched and understood. It's time to follow what the heart knows, because the head can keep you stuck by reasoning away the reasons that cause you pain. Hold your heart up too, not just your chin.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



Take more command of how your interactions with close partners are going. This is the time to be more open to others while remaining firm in your beliefs. There is a tendency to allow others space to view you as they do, but when that definition of you is off, it can be stifling.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

This is the time to embrace all the lessons you have learned over the past two years and instill some positive changes. Take more responsibility for your health and wellness by starting a new cycle of treating yourself in a better way. Start with pampering your feet and work your way up.

All things will be clear and distinct to the man who does not hurry; haste is blind and improvident. — Livy

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

							6	
			8		7			
						7		9
4		1		2		9	7	
	7	5						
	8	2	6				1	5
	2		9		8		5	
					5			2
			1	4		8		6

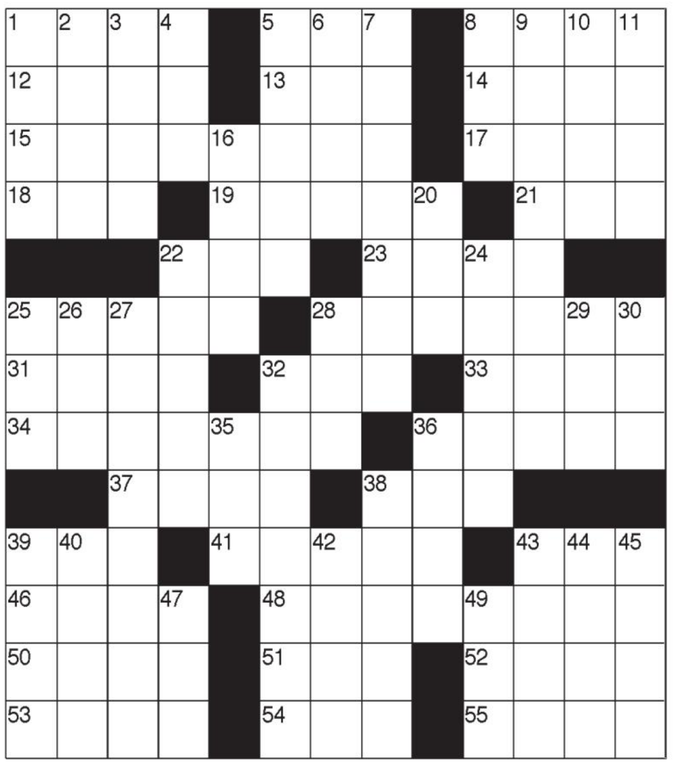
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Chair
5 Electric reluctance unit
8 Wampum
12 Tamarisk salt tree
13 N. Caucasian language
14 P.I. food
15 Austral. island
17 "Dies ____"
18 Yale student
19 Cat
21 Confederate States of America (abbr.)
22 Tin
23 Indian music
25 Hasty pudding
28 One of the Seven Hills of Rome
31 Corn lily
32 Hindu servant
33 Carried away
34 Hold
36 Courtly
37 Yorkshire river
38 Compass direction
39 Bachelor of Fine Arts (abbr.)
41 Eagle's nest
43 Adherent (suf.)
46 You (Ger.)
48 Kipling poem
50 Ironwood
51 Container
52 Appoint
53 Hide throng
54 Scot. cut of beef
55 Rhine tributary

DOWN

1 Loathe
2 And other: abbr. (2 words) (Lat.)
3 Russ. range
4 Democrat (abbr.)
5 Encounter
6 Revise
7 Wild vanilla
8 Greek letter
9 Scala (2 words)
10 Down with (Fr., 2 words)
11 Earth personified
16 Niger-Congo language
20 Edible root
22 Racoonlike mammal
24 Medieval fiddle
25 Thus (Lat.)
26 Outside (pref.)
27 Top
28 Foremost part
29 Adjusted gross income (abbr.)
30 Resin
32 One of the Apostles
35 "Fables in Slang" author
36 Sleeping
38 Fool
39 U.S. mountain
40 Dye
42 Unusual
43 Lower intestine
44 River into the Moselle
45 Phoenician city
47 Enclose
49 Turk. title



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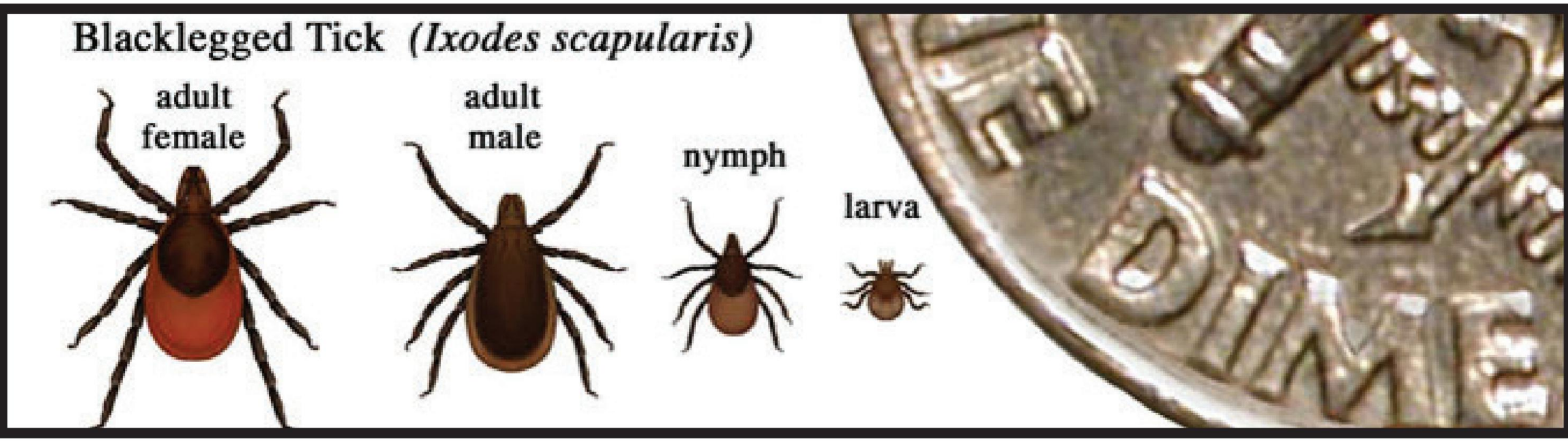

PUBLIC NOTICES

VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2025-115, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2022-104, AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION AND REGULATION OF RENTAL PROPERTIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC, TO INCLUDE PROVISIONS TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF A DWELLING, AND TO DEFINE MAXIMUM BEDROOM OCCUPANCY AND REVOCATION TERMS AND PROCEDURES.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that in accordance with Michigan law, the Grand Beach Village Council adopted amendments to Ordinance 2022-14 on March 19, 2025, at a regular Village Council meeting.

The ordinance amendments will be effective December 31, 2025. The full text of the amendments can be reviewed by contacting the Village Clerk, Kimberly Wolnik, at 269-469-3141 or by email at clerk@grandbeach.org during regular business hours.

KIMBERLY WOLNIK,
VILLAGE CLERK

VILLAGE OF GRAND BEACH
WEED CONTROL AND GRASS CUTTING NOTICE

To property owners and occupants of land in the Village of Grand Beach, Berrien County, Michigan. Notice is given that all weeds, brush and grass growing on any lands must be cut and maintained at a height not to exceed six inches and destroyed and removed to prevent such weeds, brush, and grass from going to seed, from becoming a fire hazard and/or creating a condition detrimental to the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Village.

Failure to comply with the notice and ordinance on or before May 1 shall make the property owner liable for the costs of cutting, destroying and removing the weeds, brush, and grass by the Village or its representatives or agents, and the costs may be levied and collected in the same manner as taxes are levied and collected, with the costs being a lien upon the land. The Village may cut the weeds, brush and grass as often as necessary to achieve compliance with the ordinance and charge costs to the property owner.

KIMBERLY WOLNIK,
CLERK-TREASURER

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PET OF THE WEEK

BUDDY

This guy named Buddy is almost five years old, and weighs around 40 pounds. He would love to liven quiet home, but is dog friendly. His vaccinations are up-to-date, and he is neutered. Buddy will love you, once you love him. Once you and him form a relationship, you will bes tuck like glue. Buddy is very loyal, and will have your back. Buddy has basic commands, but might just be your best running "buddy" with all his energy.

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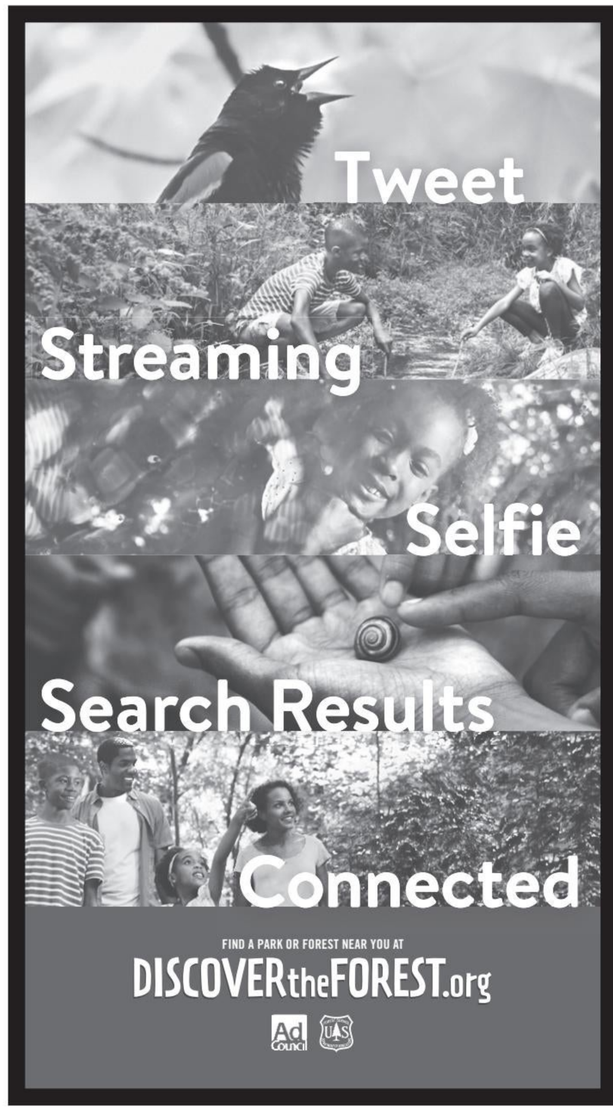

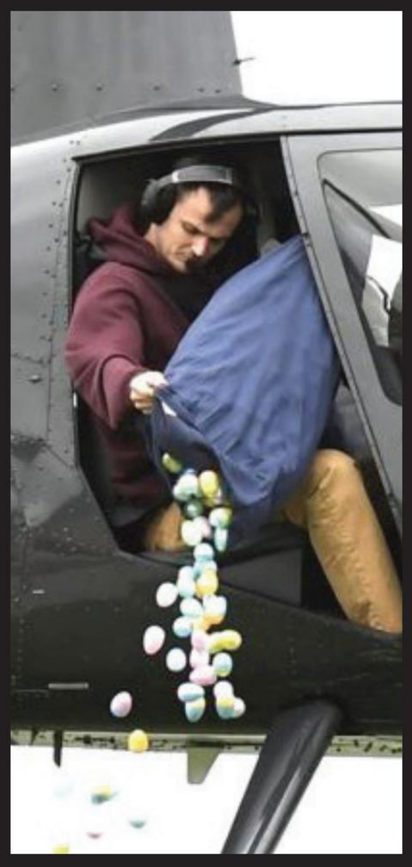

Easter eggs drop from helicopter at La Porte hunt

BY STAN MADDUX

Hundreds of children raced out with smiling faces to start gathering 5,000 eggs dropped from a helicopter Saturday morning and the 10,000 eggs that were already on the ground.

Less than 20 minutes later, all of the plastic eggs had been picked up and started being cracked open for the various prizes inside.

Lydia Grott, 13, of Union Mills found small pieces of candy in the eggs from her basket along with a ticket to be redeemed later for an undisclosed prize ranging from cash, games, toys and bicycles.

"It's really fun," she said.

She came with her mother, Gloria Grott, who also brought her four grandchildren, ages 5, 7, 11 and 12.

"The Saturday morning Easter egg hunt at the La Porte County Fairgrounds was put on by Bethany Lutheran Church.

The La Porte church has a hunt every year but this was the first time it featured a helicopter egg drop.

Pastor Dennis Meyer said the usual annual turn out, including children and adults, is about 250 but he estimated this year's crowd at about 1,500.

"We just want everybody to have a very, very happy Easter and feel that God loves them and experience that love and know that it's free. Free for all people," he said.

Everyone in a long row was kept several hundred feet away until all of the eggs finished dropping from the slow moving helicopter passing over the designated hunt area at low altitude.

What followed was sort of a stampede of children leaving many parents and other family members sort of in the dust but still having a good time.

"This is awesome," said Donna Nieman of Michigan City.

She and her husband, Matt, enjoyed seeing the kids rushing by as they stayed behind to watch their two year old granddaughter, Lindsey, reach down for eggs and place them into her basket.

Cody Duncan of La Porte brought his children Scarlett, 8, Kylo, 2, and Kalia 1.

"It's pretty great. The kids seem to love it," he said.

Megan Heslin of La Porte and many others in attendance had never before seen eggs fall from a helicopter.

She and her fiancé, Austin, and their children, Stella, 5, and Jayden, 1, also enjoyed the free pancake breakfast offered prior to the hunt.

"It's super cool. Lots of fun," she said.

There was another helicopter drop of 5,000 plastic eggs during the afternoon for a church sponsored hunt strictly for adults.

The cash prizes in those eggs were larger and included two eggs worth $1,000 apiece, said Carrie Garwood, a church member and coordinator of the events.

A helicopter drop was not part of the festivities that evening for a glow in the dark hunt for teenagers.

Garwood said there were 40,000 pre-filled eggs along with $5,000 worth of cash and prizes for the three hunts combined.

The children's hunt was free while there was a charge of $5 for the teenage hunt and $10 for the adult hunt.

There was also food and beverages available for purchase.

Garwood said the proceeds are going toward helping local first responders and the Slicers Champions, a mentoring program for students at La Porte High School.

"Bethany is always looking at ways to give back to the community and there's no better time to do that than Easter weekend," she said.

A place for music, memory and connection

CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP RALLIES SUPPORT FOR KOHN PARK

Chikaming Township is launching a crowdfunding campaign to support the final phase of fundraising for Kohn Park, a vibrant new public space coming to the heart of Sawyer.

The campaign, hosted on Patronicity, seeks to raise $75,000 from community supporters—funds that will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) through the Public Spaces Community Places program.

With $560,000 already secured through grants, private donations and township contributions as of late last month, this campaign marks the final community push to fully fund the project and begin construction.

Kohn Park will transform a long-vacant parcel in downtown Sawyer into a welcoming, inclusive gathering space for residents and visitors of all ages. Plans include: an interactive children's music play installation with vibra chimes, kettle drums and more; a sculptural shade shelter designed for concerts, performances, and small community events; native plant landscaping and pollinator gardens; a mix of seating types for rest, reading and gathering; a bike repair station, water refill fountain and other amenities that support active use and a whimsical custom bronze sculpture crafted by a local artist.

The park's programming will include musical performances, sing-a-longs and children's events through a collaboration with the School of American Music, along with storytimes and literacy programs in partnership with the Bridgman Public Library.

Kohn Park is named in honor of the late Jerry Kohn and his wife Bev, whose generosity helped make this vision a reality. The Kohn family donated the land for the park, which was once home to Sawyer's original 1950s fire station and later a small retail building. Their gift transforms a once-underutilized corner into a lasting community asset.

"Jerry loved Sawyer and believed in supporting the places that make small towns special," said Bev Kohn. "Our family is proud to be part of something that brings joy, music, and community connection to downtown."

Kohn Park is being developed as part of Chikaming Township's long-term commitment to enhancing public spaces, supporting local arts and culture, and creating a more walkable, vibrant downtown Sawyer.

"This is a transformational project for Chikaming Township," said David Bunte, township supervisor. "Kohn Park will become a new anchor for downtown—a place where people meet, listen to music, read under a tree, or simply enjoy a sunny day. The community has already shown tremendous support, and this final campaign is our opportunity to finish strong, together."

The crowdfunding campaign runs through June 2, and donations of all sizes are welcome. Every dollar raised brings the community one step closer to completing this landmark project—and the MEDC will match up to $75,000 if the goal is met.

To learn more and contribute, visit www.patronicity.com/kohnpark. —

STAFF REPORTS

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